143. Desirability of appointing separate stamp vendors to sell court-fees stamps

M.r. Narayanan Madhavan Karthavu (Shertallay) represented that at present the cashkeepers of civil courts were saddled with the duty of selling court-fees stamps and, as these men had a multiplicity of duties to attend to, parties and pleaders were put to no inconsiderable difficulty in getting stamps from them. He therefore prayed that court-fees stamps might be directed to be sold from the taluk or sub-registrars' offices and that on all occasions the taluk authorities might be asked to supply stamps in cases of urgency.

Reply.—The general principle is to appoint licensed vendors for the sale of stamps everywhere, it being not desirable to burden Government employés, appointed to do particular works, with this additional function. If a particular vendor does not do his duty properly, it cannot affect the system. Any remissness on the part of licensed vendors will be noticed, on representation being made to the authorities concerned. The system of cash-keepers being entrusted with the duty of sale of stamps is still obtaining in some places owing to the difficulty of retiring or providing for the existing hands who have practically no other work to do. As these hands retire, they are being and will be replaced by licensed vendors.

144. Arrangement for the sale of all kinds of stamps in every proverty as also direct from the taluk, allowing decent discount for the vendors.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai (Chengannur) said that it was desirable to give a fair percentage of discount to licensed stamp vendors. Their present number was disproportionately small as compared with the requirements, and the convenience of the public would be secured only by the appointment of a stamp vendor for every proverty. If this was not possible, arrangements might be made for the stamp kilkuttam accountant of the taluk who was now utilized for other work selling stamp papers and additional vendors appointed for the sale of court-fees stamps, until the cash-keepers of civil courts who were now burdened with that duty were replaced by licensed vendors.

Mr. K. Kochu Thomman (Chengannur) also spoke on the subject.

Reply.—One or more vendors are appointed for each taluk according to actual requirements and their number will be increased wherever necessary. Court-fees stamps are not now given to licensed

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